

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 VIENTI 03338 260803Z

20

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-20 IO-14 DPW-01 DRC-01 SR-02 ORM-03

CIAE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04

RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 USIA-15 OMB-01 /131 W

----- 071397

R 260416Z APR 74

FM AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8732

INFO SECDEF

JCS

CINCPAC

CINCPACAF

CDR USSAG NKP

CDR 13TH AF ADVON UDORN

AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY SAIGON

C O N F I D E N T I A L VIENTIANE 3338

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR, MASS, LA

SUBJECT: EXPLOSIVE ORDNANCE DISPOSAL (EOD) TEAMS IN LAOS

REF: VIENTIANE 2960

1. WE ARE PLANNING TO PRESENT O/A MAY 1, 1974 A DIPLOMATIC NOTE TO THE FOREIGN MINISTRY, BRINGING TO ITS ATTENTION THE NECESSITY TO WITHDRAW FROM LAOS THE UNITED STATES MILITARY EOD TEAMS PRESENTLY ATTACHED TO THE U.S. MISSION, IN COMPLIANCE WITH LAOS AGREEMENT, BEFORE JUNE 4, 1974.

2. IN THIS NOTE, WE WOULD EXPRESS REGRET THAT THESE TEAMS MUST BE WITHDRAWN AT A TIME WHEN THE IMPROVED SECURITY CONDITIONS IN THE COUNTRYSIDE AS A RESULT OF THE STABLE CEASEFIRE PERMIT THEM TO EXTEND THEIR WORK OVER A WIDER AREA, REDUCING THE SUFFERING OF THE LAO PEOPLE AND HELPING TO OPEN THE WAY TO NATIONAL RECONSTRUCTION.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 VIENTI 03338 260803Z

3. WE WOULD INDICATE THAT THE USG IS PREPARED TO MAKE AVAILABLE UP TO FIVE EOD TEAMS IN LAOS AFTER THE JUNE 4, 1974 DEADLINE IF THE COALITION GOVERNMENT (PGNU) SO REQUESTS, UNDER WHATEVER CONDITIONS AND SUPERVISION IT MIGHT SPECIFY. WE WOULD ALSO POINT OUT THAT THE USG IS PRESENTLY TRAINING LAO PERSONNEL TO CONDUCT EOD ACTIVITIES AND WOULD CONSIDER EXPANDING THIS PROGRAM.

4. EOD WORK IN LAOS IS ONE ACTIVITY WHICH IS OF GENERAL BENEFIT AT A MINIMUM COST. WE BELIEVE AT VERY LEAST WE SHOULD HAVE IT ON RECORD THAT WE OFFERED TO CONTINUE THIS SERVICE. SUCH A GESTURE IS JUSTIFIED OUT OF BOTH HUMANITARIAN CONCERN AND POLITICAL CONSIDERATION.

5. ALTHOUGH EOD IS NOT MENTIONED IN LAOS ACCORDS, ARTICLE 10(C) CALLS UPON THE PGNU TO "DISCUSS WITH THE AMERICAN GOVERNMENT" U.S. PARTICIPATION IN "HEALING THE WOUNDS OF WAR." WE BELIEVE THAT WORK OF EOD TEAMS FALLS NATURALLY WITHIN THIS FRAMEWORK AND THAT SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT EXEMPTING THESE TEAMS FROM PROHIBITION OF CONTINUING PRESENCE OF FOREIGN MILITARY WOULD BE ENTIRELY APPROPRIATE.
WHITEHOUSE

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MILITARY ASSISTANCE, EXPLOSIVES, DIPLOMATIC NOTES, TROOP REDUCTIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 26 APR 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974VIENTI03338
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740099-0133
From: VIENTIANE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t1974049/aaaaahie.tel
Line Count: 82
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: VIENTIANE 2960
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 06 AUG 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <06-Aug-2002 by shawdg>; APPROVED <14 FEB 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: EXPLOSIVE ORDNANCE DISPOSAL (EOD) TEAMS IN LAOS
TAGS: MARR, MASS, LA, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005